

# LEG

2. An act of obedience.  
At court, he that cannot make a *leg*, put off his cap, kiss his hand, and say nothing, has neither *leg*, hands, lip, nor cap. *Shakesp. All's well that ends well.*  
Their horses never give a blow,  
But when they make a *leg*, and bow. *Hudibras, p. iii.*  
If the boy should not put off his hat, nor make *legs* very gracefully, a dancing-master will cure that defect. *Locke.*  
He made his *leg*, and went away. *Swift.*
3. To stand on his own legs; to support himself.  
Persons of their fortune and quality could well have stood upon their own *legs*, and needed not to lay in for countenance and support. *Collier of Friendship.*
4. That by which any thing is supported on the ground: as, the *leg* of a table.  
**LEGACY.** *n. f.* [*legatum*, Latin.]  
*Legacy* is a particular thing given by last will and testament.  
If there be no such thing apparent upon record, they do as if one should demand a *legacy* by force and virtue of some written testament, wherein there being no such thing specified, he pleads that there it must needs be, and bringeth arguments from the love or good-will which always the testator bore him; imagining, that these, or the like proofs, will convict a testament to have that in it, which other men can no where by reading find. *Hooker, b. iii.*  
Go you to Cæsar's house;  
Fetch the will hither, and we shall determine  
How to cut off some charge in *legacies*. *Shakesp. J. Cæsar.*  
Good counsel is the best *legacy* a father can leave a child. *L'Estrange's Fables.*  
When he thought you gone  
T' augment the number of the blest above,  
He deem'd 'em *legacies* of royal love;  
Nor arm'd, his brothers portions to invade,  
But to defend the present you had made. *Dryden.*  
When the heir of this vast treasure knew,  
How large a *legacy* was left to you,  
He wisely ty'd it to the crown again. *Dryden.*  
Leave to thy children tumult, strife, and war,  
Portions of toil, and *legacies* of care. *Prior.*
- LEGAL.** *adj.* [*legal*, French; *leges*, Latin.]  
1. Done or conceived according to law.  
Whatever was before, was before time of memory; and what is since is, in a *legal* sense, within the time of memory. *Hale's Hist. of the Common Law of England.*  
2. Lawful; not contrary to law.  
His merits  
To save them, not their own, though *legal*, works. *Milt.*  
**LEGALITY.** *n. f.* [*legalité*, French.] Lawfulness.  
To **LEGALIZE.** *v. a.* [*legaliser*, French; from *legal*.] To authorize; to make lawful.  
If any thing can *legalize* revenge, it should be injury from an extremely obliged person: but revenge is so absolutely the peculiar of heaven, that no consideration can empower, even the best men, to assume the execution of it. *South's Sermons.*
- LEGALLY.** *adv.* [from *legal*.] Lawfully; according to law.  
A prince may not, much less may inferior judges, deny justice, when it is *legally* and competently demanded. *Taylor.*
- LEGATARY.** *n. f.* [*legataire*, French; from *legatum*, Latin.] One who has a *legacy* left.  
An executor shall exhibit a true inventory of goods, taken in the presence of fit persons, as creditors and *legataries* are, unto the ordinary.
- LEGATINE.** *adj.* [from *legatus*.] Made by a legate.  
When any one is absolved from excommunication, it is provided by a *legatine* constitution, that some one shall publish such absolution. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*
2. Belonging to a legate of the Roman see.  
All those you have done of late,  
By your power *legatine* within this kingdom,  
Fall in the compass of a premonition. *Shakespeare.*
- LEGATE.** *n. f.* [*legatus*, Latin; *legat*, French; *legato*, Italian.]  
1. A deputy; an ambassador.  
The *legates* from th' Ætolian prince return:  
Sad news they bring, that after all the cost,  
And care employ'd, their embassy is lost. *Dryden. Æneis.*  
2. A kind of spiritual ambassador from the pope; a commissioner deputed by the pope for ecclesiastical affairs.  
Look where the holy *legate* comes apace,  
To give us warrant from the hand of heav'n. *Shakesp. Atterbury.*  
Upon the *legate's* summons, he submitted himself to an examination, and appeared before him. *Collier.*
- LEGATEE.** *n. f.* [from *legatum*, Lat.] One who has a *legacy* left him.  
If he chance to 'scape this dismal bout,  
The former *legatees* are blotted out. *Dryden's Juvenal.*  
My will is, that if any of the above-named *legatees* should die before me, that then the respective *legacies* shall revert to myself. *Swift.*
- LEGATION.** *n. f.* [*legatio*, Latin.] Deputation; commission; embassy.

# LEG

- It will be found, that after a *legation* ad res repetendas, and a refusal, and a denunciation or indictment of a war, the war is no more confined to the place of the quarrel, but is left at large. *Bacon's War with Spain.*  
In the attiring and ornament of their bodies the duke had a fine and unaffected politeness, and upon occasion costly, as in his *legations*. *Wotton.*
- LEGATOR.** *n. f.* [from *lego*, Latin.] One who makes a will, and leaves *legacies*.  
Suppose debate  
Betwixt pretenders to a fair estate,  
Bequeath'd by some *legator's* last intent. *Dryden.*
- LEGEND.** *n. f.* [*legenda*, Latin.]  
1. A chronicle or register of the lives of saints.  
*Legends* being grown in a manner to be nothing else but heaps of frivolous and scandalous vanities, they have been even with disdain thrown out, the very nests which bred them abhorring them. *Hooker, b. v.*  
There are in Rome two sets of antiquities, the christian and the heathen; the former, though of a frether date, are so embroiled with fable and *legend*, that one receives but little satisfaction. *Addison's Remarks on Italy.*
2. Any memorial or relation.  
And in this *legend* all that glorious deed  
Read, whilst you arm you; arm you whilst you read. *Fairfax, b. i.*
3. An incredible unauthentic narrative.  
Who can show the *legends*, that record  
More idle tales, or fables so absurd. *Blackmore.*  
It is the way and means of attaining to heaven, that makes profane scorners so willingly let go the expectation of it. It is not the articles of the creed, but the duty to God and their neighbour, that is such an inconsistent incredible *legend*. *Bentley's Sermons.*
4. Any inscription; particularly on medals or coins.  
Compare the beauty and comprehensiveness of *legends* on ancient coins. *Addison on Medals.*
- LEGER.** *n. f.* [from *leger*, Dutch. To lie or remain in a place.] Any thing that lies in a place; as, a *leger* ambassador; a resident; one that continues at the court to which he is sent; a *leger-book*, a book that lies in the computing-house.
- Lord Angelo, having affairs to heav'n,  
Intends you for his swift ambassador,  
Where you shall be an everlasting *leger*. *Shakespeare.*  
I've giv'n him that,  
Which, if he take, shall quite unpeople her  
Of *leiders* for her sweet. *Shakespeare's Cymbeline.*  
If *leger* ambassadors or agents were sent to remain near the courts of princes, to observe their motions, and to hold correspondence with them, such were made choice of as were vigilant. *Bacon's Advice to Villiers.*  
Who can eender  
Thy praise too much? thou art heav'n's *leger* here,  
Working against the states of death and hell. *Herbert.*  
He withdrew not his confidence from any of those who attended his person, who, in truth, lay *leger* for the covenant, and kept up the spirits of their countrymen by their intelligence. *Clorenson, b. ii.*  
I call that a *leger* bait, which is fixed, or made to rest, in one certain place, when you shall be absent; and I call that a walking bait which you have ever in motion. *Walton.*
- LEGERDEMAIN.** *n. f.* [contracted perhaps from *legereté de main*, French.] Slight of hand; jugglery; power of deceiving the eye by nimble motion; trick; deception; knack.  
He so light was at *legerdemain*,  
That what he touch'd came not to light again. *Hubbard.*  
Of all the tricks and *legerdemain* by which men impose upon their own souls, there is none so common as the plea of a good intention. *South's Sermons.*
- LEGERITY.** *n. f.* [*legereté*, French.] Lightness; nimbleness; quickness. A word not in use.  
When the mind is quicken'd,  
The organs though desunct and dead before,  
Break up their drowsy grave, and newly move  
With casted slough and fresh *legerity*. *Shakespeare.*
- LEGGED.** *adj.* [from *leg*.] Having legs; furnished with legs.
- LEGIBLE.** *n. f.* [*legibilis*, Latin.]  
1. Such as may be read.  
You observe some clergymen with their heads held down within an inch of the cushion, to read what is hardly *legible*. *Swift.*  
2. Apparent; discoverable.  
People's opinions of themselves are *legible* in their countenances. Thus a kind imagination makes a bold man have vigour and enterprize in his air and motion; it stamps value and significance upon his face. *Collier.*
- LEGIBLY.** *adv.* [from *legibilis*.] In such a manner as may be read.
- LEGION.** [*legio*, Latin.]

1. A

# LEG

1. A body of Roman soldiers, consisting of about five thousand.  
The most remarkable piece in Antoninus's pillar is, the figure of Jupiter Pluvius sending rain on the fainting army of Marcus Aurelius, and thunderbolts on his enemies, which is the greatest confirmation possible of the story of the Christian *legion*. *Addison.*
  2. A military force.  
She to foreign realms  
Sends forth her dreadful *legions*. *Philips.*
  3. Any great number.  
Not in the *legions*  
Of horrid hell, can come a devil more damn'd. *Shakesp.*  
The partition between good and evil is broken down; and where one in has entered, *legions* will force their way through the same breach. *Rogers's Sermons.*
- LEGIONARY.** *adj.* [from *legion*.]  
1. Relating to a legion.  
2. Containing a legion.  
3. Containing a great indefinite number.  
Too many applying themselves betwixt jest and earnest,  
make up the *legionary* body of error. *Brown's Vulg. Errors.*
- LEGISLATION.** *n. f.* [from *legislator*, Lat.] The act of giving laws.  
Pythagoras joined *legislation* to his philosophy, and, like others, pretended to miracles and revelations from God, to give a more venerable sanction to the laws he prescribed. *Addison on the Conversion of St. Paul.*
- LEGISLATIVE.** *adj.* [from *legislator*.] Giving laws; law-giving.  
Their *legislative* frenzy they repent,  
Enacting it should make no precedent. *Denham.*  
The poet is a kind of lawgiver, and those qualities are proper to the *legislative* style. *Dryden.*
- LEGISLATOR.** *n. f.* [*legislator*, Latin; *legislatur*, French.] A lawgiver; one who makes laws for any community.  
It spoke like a *legislator*: the thing spoke was a law. *South.*  
Heroes in animated marble frown,  
And *legislators* seem to think in stone. *Pope.*
- LEGISLATURE.** *n. f.* [from *legislator*, Latin.] The power that makes laws.  
Without the concurrent consent of all three parts of the *legislature*, no law is or can be made. *Hale's Com. Law.*  
In the notion of a *legislature* is implied a power to change, repeal, and suspend laws in being, as well as to make new laws. *Addison's Freeholder, No. 16.*  
By the supreme magistrate is properly understood the legislative power; but the word magistrate seeming to denote a single person, and to express the executive power, it came to pass that the obedience due to the *legislature* was, for want of considering this easy distinction, misapplied to the administration. *Swift's Sentiments of a Ch. of England Man.*
- LEGITIMACY.** *n. f.* [from *legitimate*.]  
1. Lawfulness of birth.  
In respect of his *legitimacy*, it will be good. *Ayliffe.*  
2. Genuineness; not spuriousness.  
The *legitimacy* or reality of these marine bodies vindicated, I now inquire by what means they were hurried out of the ocean. *Woodward's Natural History.*
- LEGITIMATE.** *adj.* [from *legitimus*, Lat. *legitime*, French.] Born in marriage; lawfully begotten.  
*Legitimate* Edgar, I must have your land;  
Our father's love is to the bastard Edmund. *Shakespeare.*  
An adulterous person is tied to make provision for the children begotten in unlawful embraces, that they may do no injury to the *legitimate*, by receiving a common portion. *Taylor's Rule of Holy Living.*
- To **LEGITIMATE.** *v. a.* [*legitimare*, Fr. from the adjective.]  
1. To procure to any the rights of *legitimate* birth.  
*Legitimate* him that was a bastard. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*  
2. To make lawful.  
It would be impossible for any enterprize to be lawful, if that which should *legitimate* it is subsequent to it, and can have no influence to make it good or bad. *Decay of Piety.*
- LEGITIMATELY.** *adv.* [from *legitimate*.] Lawfully; genuinely.  
By degrees he rose to Jove's imperial seat,  
Thus difficulties prove a soul *legitimately* great. *Dryden.*
- LEGITIMATION.** *n. f.* [*legitimation*, French; from *legitimate*.]  
1. Lawful birth.  
I have disclaim'd my land;  
*Legitimation*, name, and all is gone:  
Then, good my mother, let me know my father. *Shakesp.*  
From whence will arise many questions of *legitimation*, and what in nature is the difference betwixt a wife and a concubine. *Locke.*
2. The act of investing with the privileges of lawful birth.  
**LEGUME.** *n. f.* [*legume*, French; *legumen*, Lat.] Seeds  
**LEGUMEN.** *n. f.* [*legumen*, Latin.] not repeated, but gathered by the hand; as, beans: in general, all larger seeds; pulse.  
Some *legumens*, as peas or beans, if newly gathered and distilled in a retort, will afford an acid spirit. *Boyle.*

# LEM

- In the spring fell great rains, upon which ensued a most destructive mildew upon the corn and *legumes*. *Arbutnot.*
- LEGUMINOUS.** *adj.* [*legumineux*, French; from *legumen*.] Belonging to pulse; consisting of pulse.  
The properest food of the vegetable kingdom is taken from the farinaceous seeds: as oats, barley, and wheat; or of some of the filiquose or *leguminous*; as, peas or beans. *Arbutnot.*
- LEISURABLY.** *adv.* [from *leisureable*.] At leisure; without tumult or hurry.  
Let us beg of God, that when the hour of our rest is come, the patterns of our dissolution may be Jacob, Moses, Joshua, and David, who *leisureably* ending their lives in peace, prayed for the mercies of God to come upon their posterity. *Hooker, b. v.*
- LEISURABLE.** *adj.* [from *leisure*.] Done at leisure; not hurried; enjoying leisure.  
A relation inexcusable in his works of *leisureable* hours, the examination being as ready as the relation. *Brown.*
- LEISURE.** *n. f.* [*loisir*, French.]  
1. Freedom from business or hurry; vacancy of mind; power to spend time according to choice.  
A gentleman fell very sick, and a friend said to him, Send for a physician; but the sick man answered, It is no matter; for if I die, I will die at *leisure*. *Bacon's Apophthegms.*  
Where ambition and avarice have made no entrance, the desire of *leisure* is much more natural than of business and care. *Temple.*  
O happy youth!  
For whom thy fates reserve so fair a bride:  
He sigh'd, and had no *leisure* more to say,  
His honour call'd his eyes another way. *Dryden's Ovid.*  
You enjoy your quiet in a garden, where you have not only the *leisure* of thinking, but the pleasure to think of nothing which can discompose your mind. *Dryden.*
2. Convenience of time.  
We'll make our *leisures* to attend on yours. *Shakesp.*  
They summon'd up their meiny, strait took horse;  
Commanded me to follow, and attend  
The *leisure* of their answer. *Shakesp. King Lear.*  
I shall leave with him that very rational and emphatical rebuke of Tully, To be considered at his *leisure*. *Locke.*
3. Want of leisure. Not used.  
More than I have said, loving countrymen;  
The *leisure* and enforcement of the time  
Forbids to dwell on. *Shakespeare's Richard III.*
- LEISURELY.** *adj.* [from *leisure*.] Not hasty; deliberate; done without hurry.  
He was the wretchedst thing when he was young,  
So long a growing, and so *leisurely*,  
That, if the rule were true, he should be gracious. *Shakespeare.*  
The earl of Warwick, with a handful of men, fired Leith and Edinburgh, and returned by a *leisurely* march. *Hayward.*  
The bridge is human life: upon a more *leisurely* survey of it, I found that it consisted of threefold and ten intire arches. *Addison's Spectator, No. 159.*
- LEISURELY.** *adv.* [from *leisure*.] Not in a hurry; slowly.  
The Belgians hop'd, that with disorder'd haste,  
Our deep-cut keels upon the sands might run;  
Or if with caution *leisurely* we pass,  
Their numerous grofs might charge us one by one. *Dryd.*  
We descended very *leisurely*, my friend being careful to count the steps. *Addison's Freeholder, No. 47.*
- LEMAN.** *n. f.* [Generally supposed to be *laimant*, the lover, French; but imagined by *Junius*, with almost equal probability, to be derived from *leef*, Dutch, or *leop*, Saxon, beloved and man. This etymology is strongly supported by the ancient orthography, according to which it was written *leve-man*.] A sweetheart; a gallant; or a mistress. *Hammer.*  
Hold for my sake, and do him not to dye;  
But vanquish'd, thine eternal bondslave make,  
And me thy worthy meed unto thy *leman* take. *Fa. Qu.*  
A cup of wine,  
That's brisk and fine,  
And drink unto the *leman* mine. *Shakesp. Henry IV.*
- LEMMA.** *n. f.* [*λημμα*; *lemme*, French.] A proposition previously assumed.
- LEMON.** *n. f.* [*limon*, French; *limonium*, low Latin.]  
1. The fruit of the lemon-tree.  
The juice of *lemons* is more cooling and astringent than that of oranges.  
The dyers use it for dyeing of bright yellows and *lemon* colours. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*  
Bear me, Pomona!  
To where the *lemon* and the piercing lime,  
With the deep orange, glowing through the green,  
Their lighter glories blend. *Thomson's Sermons.*- 2. The tree that bears lemons.  
The *lemon* tree hath large stiff leaves; the flower consists of many leaves, which expand in form of a rose: the fruit is almost of an oval figure, and divided into several cells, in which

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